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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/432,904	11/02/1999	CESAR Z. LINA	1001.1012	1761
30159	7590	10/04/2004		EXAMINER
ATTN: LEGAL-MANUFACTURING KINETIC CONCEPTS, INC. P.O. BOX 659508 SAN ANTONIO, TX 78265-9508			DEMILLE, DANTON D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3764	25
			DATE MAILED: 10/04/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/432,904	LINA, CESAR Z.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Danton DeMille	3764	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 8-20 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 2-7 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

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Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. **Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Blessinger.**
2. Blessinger teaches an interior elastic fabric sheet 18' and an exterior fabric sheet 18" forming a wrap. The wrap encompasses an inflatable bladder 16. When the bladder 16 is inflated it would expand inwardly toward the body part and expand the elastic jacket 18 such as shown in figure 3. When the bladder expands the elasticity of the jacket material would expand evenly over the entire sheet even if different parts expanded at different rates. That is the natural property of elastic material. If the jacket were made of inelastic material then the jacket would expand to a point and the curvature of the device would cause buckling of the material. Therefore the elasticity of the interior sheet functions to exert a lateral force on the exterior sheet such that the inflatable bladder would be substantially wrinkle-free.
3. Blessinger teaches all of the structural limitations claimed. The recitation that the device is adapted for the application of fluid pressure on a human foot would be a capability of the Blessinger device. The Blessinger device is intended to be use on the upper arm of the patient. This size would clearly accommodate the human foot.
4. Claims 2-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. Claims 8-20 are allowable over prior art to which the examiner is aware.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 5 April 2004, with respect to claims 1-20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of the claims has been withdrawn.
7. Claim 1 remains to be broad and is comprehended by Blessinger. As noted above, Blessinger teaches a wrap comprised of an elastic jacket and a bladder contained therein and would appear to anticipate the claim.

ddd

22 September, 2004

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